

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1872. Mr. ISAKSON (for Mr. CRAIG) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3200, to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program, and for other purposes.

SA 1873. Mr. ISAKSON (for Mr. INHOFE) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1709, to provide favorable treatment for certain projects in response to Hurricane Katrina, with respect to revolving loans under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and for other purposes.

SA 1874. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1042, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1872. Mr. ISAKSON (for Mr. CRAIG) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3200, to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Enhancement Act of 2005".

SEC. 2. REPEALER.

Effective as of August 31, 2005, section 1012 of division A of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Tsunami Relief, 2005 (Public Law 109-13; 119 Stat. 244), including the amendments made by that section, are repealed, and sections 1967, 1969, 1970, and 1977 of title 38, United States Code, shall be applied as if that section had not been enacted.

SEC. 3. INCREASE FROM \$250,000 TO \$400,000 IN AUTOMATIC MAXIMUM COVERAGE UNDER SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE AND VETERANS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE.

(a) MAXIMUM UNDER SGLI.—Section 1967 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3)(A)(i), by striking "\$250,000" and inserting "\$400,000"; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking "of \$250,000" and inserting "in effect under paragraph (3)(A)(i) of that subsection".

(b) MAXIMUM UNDER VGLI.—Section 1977(a) of such title is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "in excess of \$250,000 at any one time" and inserting "at any one time in excess of the maximum amount for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance in effect under section 1967(a)(3)(A)(i) of this title"; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking "for less than \$250,000 under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance" and inserting "under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance for less than the maximum amount for such insurance in effect under section 1967(a)(3)(A)(i) of this title"; and

(B) by striking "does not exceed \$250,000" and inserting "does not exceed such maximum amount in effect under such section".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as of September 1, 2005, and shall apply with respect to deaths occurring on or after that date.

SEC. 4. SPOUSAL NOTIFICATIONS RELATING TO SERVICEMEMBERS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM.

Effective as of September 1, 2005, section 1967 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(f)(1) If a member who is married and who is eligible for insurance under this section makes an election under subsection (a)(2)(A) not to be insured under this subchapter, the Secretary concerned shall notify the member's spouse, in writing, of that election.

"(2) In the case of a member who is married and who is insured under this section and whose spouse is designated as a beneficiary of the member under this subchapter, whenever the member makes an election under subsection (a)(3)(B) for insurance of the member in an amount that is less than the maximum amount provided under subsection (a)(3)(A)(i), the Secretary concerned shall notify the member's spouse, in writing, of that election—

"(A) in the case of the first such election; and

"(B) in the case of any subsequent such election if the effect of such election is to reduce the amount of insurance coverage of the member from that in effect immediately before such election.

"(3) In the case of a member who is married and who is insured under this section, if the member makes a designation under section 1970(a) of this title of any person other than the spouse or a child of the member as the beneficiary of the member for any amount of insurance under this subchapter, the Secretary concerned shall notify the member's spouse, in writing, that such a beneficiary designation has been made by the member, except that such a notification is not required if the spouse has previously received such a notification under this paragraph and if immediately before the new designation by the member under section 1970(a) of this title the spouse is not a designated beneficiary of the member for any amount of insurance under this subchapter.

"(4) A notification required by this subsection is satisfied by a good faith effort to provide the required information to the spouse at the last address of the spouse in the records of the Secretary concerned. Failure to provide a notification required under this subsection in a timely manner does not affect the validity of any election specified in paragraph (1) or (2) or beneficiary designation specified in paragraph (3)."

SEC. 5. INCREMENTS OF INSURANCE THAT MAY BE ELECTED.

(a) INCREASE IN INCREMENT AMOUNT.—Subsection (a)(3)(B) of section 1967 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking "member or spouse" in the last sentence and inserting "member, be evenly divisible by \$50,000 and, in the case of a member's spouse,".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect as of September 1, 2005.

SA 1873. Mr. ISAKSON (for Mr. INHOFE) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1709, to provide favorable treatment for certain projects in response to Hurricane Katrina, with respect to revolving loans under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Gulf Coast Emergency Water Infrastructure Assistance Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF STATE.

In this Act, the term "State" means—

- (1) the State of Alabama;
- (2) the State of Louisiana; and
- (3) the State of Mississippi.

SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN LOANS.

(a) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE PROJECT.—In this section, the term "eligible project" means a project—

(1) to repair, replace, or rebuild a publicly-owned treatment works (as defined in section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292)), including a privately-owned utility that principally treats municipal wastewater or domestic sewage, in an area affected by Hurricane Katrina or a related condition; or

(2) that is a water quality project directly related to relief efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina or a related condition, as determined by the State in which the project is located.

(b) ADDITIONAL SUBSIDIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), for the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, a State may provide additional subsidization to an eligible project that receives funds through a revolving loan under section 603 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1383), including—

(A) forgiveness of the principal of the revolving loan; or

(B) a zero-percent interest rate on the revolving loan.

(2) LIMITATION.—The amount of any additional subsidization provided under paragraph (1) shall not exceed 30 percent of the amount of the capitalization grant received by the State under section 602 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1382) for the fiscal year during which the subsidization is provided.

(c) EXTENDED TERMS.—For the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, a State may extend the term of a revolving loan under section 603 of that Act (33 U.S.C. 1383) for an eligible project described in subsection (b), if the extended term—

(1) terminates not later than the date that is 30 years after the date of completion of the project that is the subject of the loan; and

(2) does not exceed the expected design life of the project.

(d) PRIORITY LISTS.—For the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, a State may provide assistance to an eligible project that is not included on the priority list of the State under section 216 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1296).

SEC. 4. PRIORITY LIST.

For the 2-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, a State may provide assistance to a public water system that is not included on the priority list of the State under section 1452(b)(3)(B) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-12(b)(3)(B)), if the project—

(1) involves damage caused by Hurricane Katrina or a related condition; and

(2) is in accordance with section 1452(b)(3)(A) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-12(b)(3)(A)).

SEC. 5. TESTING OF PRIVATELY-OWNED DRINKING WATER WELLS.

On receipt of a request from a homeowner, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may conduct a test of a drinking water well owned or operated by the homeowner that is, or may be, contaminated as a result of Hurricane Katrina or a related condition.

SA 1874. Mr. DEWINE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill S. 1042, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 167, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

(c) **ADDITIONAL DEATH GRATUITY.**—In the case of an active duty member of the armed forces who died between October 7, 2001, and May 11, 2005, and was not eligible for an additional death gratuity under section 1478(e) of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 1013(b) of Public Law 109-13, the eligible survivors of such decedent shall receive an additional death gratuity in the same amount and under the same conditions as provided under such section 1478(e).

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on needed improvements to defense acquisition processes and organizations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 27 at 10 a.m.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1701, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to improve the reclamation of abandoned mines; and S. 961, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 to preauthorize and reform the abandoned mine reclamation program and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. to hold a hearing on nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 27, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed briefing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FEDERAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, GOVERNMENT INFORMATION, AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, and International Security be authorized to meet on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. for a hearing regarding "Housing-Related Programs for the Poor: Can We Be Sure That Federal Assistance Is Getting to Those Who Need It Most?"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY, EXPORT AND TRADE PROMOTION

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 27, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on energy supplies in Eurasia and implications for U.S. energy security.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Tuesday, September 27, 2005 at 10 a.m. for a hearing entitled, "Alternative Personnel Systems: Assessing Progress in the Federal Government."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that privilege of the floor be granted to Jay Apperson for the duration of the debate on the nomination of Judge Roberts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. I ask unanimous consent that my chief counsel on the Judiciary Committee, William Smith, be granted the privilege of the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXTENDING WAIVER AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2132.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2132) to extend the waiver authority of the Secretary of Education with respect to student financial assistance dur-

ing a war or other military operation or national emergency.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2132) was read the third time and passed.

POSTAGE STAMP FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 221, S. 37.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 37) to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years.

There being no objection, Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. COBURN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 37) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 37

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. 2-YEAR EXTENSION OF POSTAGE STAMP FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH.

Section 414(h) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking "2005" and inserting "2007".

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1771

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1771) to express the sense of Congress and to improve reporting with respect to the safety of workers in the response and recovery activities related to Hurricane Katrina, and for other purposes.

Mr. COBURN. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar under rule XIV.

DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—H.R. 2107

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that H.R. 2107 be